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TEXT

SUBJECT: AUSTRIA MEDIA REACTION

1. VICE CHANCELLOR MOCK'S U.S. VISIT: ACCORDING TO THE SEMI-OFFICIAL DAILY "WIENER ZEITUNG" OF OCT. 1 (CIRCULATION 40,000), THE STATE DEPARTMENT ON WEDNESDAY REFUSED TO COMMENT ON VICE CHANCELLOR MOCK'S STATEMENT THAT U.S. AMBASSADORS HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO NO LONGER AVOID MEETING WITH WALDHEIM. THE PAPER REPORTED SPOKESPERSON PHYLLIS OAKLEY'S CONFIRMATION OF THE FACT THAT INSTRUCTIONS HAVE BEEN GIVEN, BUT SHE EXPLAINED THAT IT IS A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE NOT TO DISCLOSE THE CONTENTS OF ANY SUCH DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATION. THE

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"WIENER ZEITUNG" FURTHERMORE REPORTED MS. OAKLEY'S REMARK THAT THE UNITED STATES RESPECTS THE AUSTRIAN PRESIDENCY AS AN INSTITUTION.

2. UNDER THE FRONT PAGE HEADLINE "CONFRONTATION OF MOCK WITH U.S. JOURNALISTS," WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT MONICA RIEDLER REPORTED AS FOLLOWS IN THE INDEPENDENT DAILY "DIE PRESSE" (CIRCULATION 68,500): "IT IS NOT THE PERSON OF KURT WALDHEIM WHICH IS A BURDEN TO AUSTRIA, BUT THE CAMPAIGN WAGED AGAINST HIM, FOREIGN MINISTER ALOIS MOCK DECLARED ON WEDNESDAY DURING A CONFRONTATION WITH U.S. JOURNALISTS. HE ADDED THAT THIS UNDOUBTEDLY MAKES THE WORK OF AUSTRIAN POLITICIANS MORE DIFFICULT, 'BUT I STRONGLY ADVOCATE RESPECT ALSO FOR AUSTRIAN DEMOCRACY.' DURING HIS VISIT TO THE U.S., MOCK'S REMARKS ABOUT THE WALDHEIM CASE HAVE CENTERED ON THE QUESTION: WHERE IS THE EVIDENCE WHICH WOULD SHOW THAT THE 'WATCHLIST' DECISION OF THE UNITED STATES IS JUSTIFIED?"

AS FOR MOCK'S SPEECH BEFORE THE U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY, RIEDLER REPORTED THAT HE CALLED FOR A MIDEAST CONFERENCE UNDER U.N. AUSPICES AND FOR THE COMBINATION OF WORLD PEACE EFFORTS WITH RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS. HE MAINTAINED THAT PEACE IS NOT JUST A MATTER OF DISARMAMENT, BUT ALSO OF FREEDOM. LECTURING AT THE THE NEW YORK "INSTITUTE FOR EAST-WEST SECURITY STUDIES," MOCK POINTED OUT THAT THE INTERNAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE SOVIET UNION IS HAVING A FAVORABLE IMPACT IN OTHER EASTERN EUROPEAN STATES AS WELL. THE FACT THAT, AT THE VIENNA CSCE FOLLOW-UP MEETING, SOME PROPOSALS HAVE BEEN SPONSORED JOINTLY BY REPRESENTATIVES OF DIFFERENT BLOCS WAS INTERPRETED BY MOCK AS AN INDICATION OF MORE FLEXIBILITY AND WILLINGNESS TO COMPROMISE.

- 3. UNDER THE PAGE 2 HEADLINE "THE INSTRUCTIONS," "DIE PRESSE" CARRIED THE FOLLOWING EDITORIAL BY FOREIGN EDITOR ANDREAS UNTERBERGER: "AMERICA'S AMBASSADORS HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO TREAT AUSTRIA'S FEDERAL PRESIDENT WITH THE RESPECT DUE TO HIM. IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT SUCH MATTERS OF COURSE ARE BY NO MEANS MATTERS OF COURSE IN THE UNITED STATES, ALOIS MOCK CAN REGARD THIS AS A SUCCESS OF HIS INTERVENTIONS IN AMERICA. TO BE SURE, DEPUTY SECRETARY OF STATE WHITEHEAD, WHO HAS NOW INFORMED MOCK ABOUT THIS DECISION, IS THE MAN WHO HAD ANNOUNCED THE SAME THING IN VIENNA BEFORE THE SUMMER. THIS WAS FOLLOWED, A FEW DAYS LATER, BY ANOTHER ANTI-WALDHEIM BOYCOTT, THIS TIME IN AMMAN. THEREFORE, AMERICAN POLICY (WITH REGARD TO WALDHEIM) WILL HAVE TO BE JUDGED BY THE ACTIONS OF ITS AMBASSADORS, RATHER THAN BY SUCH ANNOUNCEMENTS. VERY OFTEN, U.S. DIPLOMATS ATTACH MORE IMPORTANCE TO THEIR PERSONAL CAREERS THAN TO INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE STATE DEPARTMENT."
- 4. THE AUSTRIAN SOCIALIST PARTY DAILY "NEUE AZ" (CIRCULATION 72,500) CARRIED A PAGE 4 EDITORIAL BY HERBERT LACKNER, ENTITLED "BACK TO NORMAL?" LACKNER

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WROTE: "IF NOTHING ELSE, THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAS NOW INSTRUCTED ITS DIPLOMATS ALL OVER THE WORLD TO TREAT WALDHEIM IN A WAY WHICH WILL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH DIPLOMATIC USAGE. THIS ISN'T VERY MUCH. THIS MEANS THAT, FROM NOW ON, U.S. AMBASSADORS WILL NOT KEEP DEMONSTRATIVELY AWAY FROM EVENTS WHERE WALDHEIM IS PRESENT, THAT THEY WILL SHAKE HANDS WHEN MEETING WITH UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 VIENNA 13765

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HIM, AND THAT THE NEW AMERICAN AMBASSADOR WILL PRESENT HIS CREDENTIALS TO HIM. THE INSTRUCTIONS HAVE BEEN ISSUED PROBABLY FOR THE LATTER REASON BECAUSE IF ONE HAD STUCK TO AVOIDING ANY CONTACT (WITH WALDHEIM), IT WOULD HAVE BEEN IMPOSSIBLE TO REPLACE THE AMBASSADOR. BETWEEN WALDHEIM AND U.S. REPRESENTATIVES THERE WILL THUS BE A RELATIONSHIP OF THE KIND WHICH IS NORMAL FOR PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT AT WAR WITH EACH OTHER. THAT'S ALL. IN THE FUTURE, TOO, WALDHEIM WILL BE UNABLE TO TRAVEL TO COUNTRIES SITUATED IN WESTERN, NORTHERN OR SOUTHERN EUROPE. INSTEAD, HE WILL VISIT PAKISTAN AND, IF HE IS POSSESSED BY THE DEVIL, UGANDA, ROMANIA OR LIBYA AS WELL, WHICH HAVE ALL INVITED HIM. WILL WE HAVE TO GET USED TO THIS STATE OF AFFAIRS?" O'CONNOR

ADMIN END OF MESSAGE

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